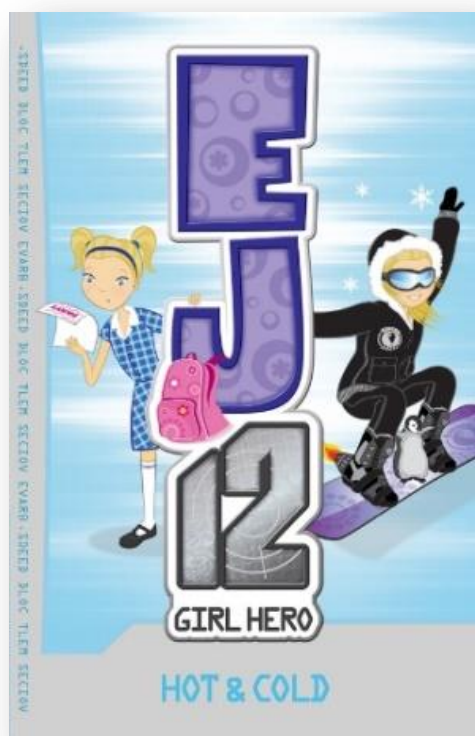


EJ12 GIRL HERO HOT AND COLD

Susannah McFarlane

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- Math-loving, super-spy heroine.
- Non-stop action and problem solving.
- Timely, real life issues; fast-moving and exciting.
- Supplements STEM curriculum.

"Tongue scan complete. Agent identity confirmed. Please drop in, EJ12."

There was another beep, then EJ did exactly that. The floor underneath opened and both EJ and the beanbag dropped gently down into a small chamber. EJ had entered the Code Room, a small room with nothing in it except a table and chair and, above the table, a clear plastic tube protruding from the ceiling. Keeping her eyes on the tube, EJ sat and waited. She knew what would happen next, and soon enough she heard the familiar whizzing noise. She cupped her hands, put them under the tube and caught a little capsule that popped out of the tube. It was the code capsule.

EJ opened it and took out a small piece of paper and a little pencil. She could feel the butterflies starting to flutter inside her. She always felt a little nervous opening the code, but it was a good, excited nervous as she got ready to crack the code. It was a little like waiting for a race to start. EJ unfolded the paper. It felt crisp and clean between her fingers. EJ smiled with anticipation as she read.

For the eyes of EJ12 only:
(intercepted message)

VLEPL PPS PRECID ND PLR TP
RDY FR BSNS.
FY PRMPTLY T MPRR PNOG
PNT FR PRVW ND PRY NVITH.
PYMNT: GO MLLN DLLRS BY MDDY
PRTY DRSS T CHLL WTH
DR C HLL 6PM

Codes, EJ just loved them. They were confusing at first because they looked like one thing and then turned out to be something else—a bit like Nema really. But once you understood how they worked, they were easy to handle. She wished Nema was like that too. *If only I could crack the Nema code!*

Back to the code, she thought and then smiled as she looked at it carefully. This has to be the easiest